Supplementary File 1:

Audit data for new outpatient attendances May 2011 at Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

Patients seen in new outpatient slots (n=133)

Patients aged 16-45 years with likely IBS and no alarm symptoms in GP referral letter (n=19)

14.3% of first attendances in general gastroenterology outpatients taken by or this group of patients (n=19/133)

	Alarm symptoms
	Blood in stool
	Unintentional or unexplained weight loss
	Nocturnal symptoms
ŀ	Anaemia
	Significant family history of bowel or ovarian cancer

Supplementary File 3 - Costing figures based on May 2011 Secondary Care audit data from Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

ing figures based on May 2011 Secondary Care Audit Data from Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust		
2010-11 number of first Gastroenterology OP attendances where source of referral is GP for Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust and Yeovil District NHS Foundation Trust (SUS data)	1992 patients	
Number of patients aged 16-45 years with no red flag symptoms and likely IBS based on Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust audit result of 14.3% of first OP attendances per annum	285 patients	
Average cost of first OP appointment with gastroenterology and investigations arising calculated per patient	£565.75	
Total secondary care costs for 285 patients	£161,198	